

# MICHIGAN SUPREME COURT



## *Office of Public Information*

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### 36<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT COURT GENERATES OVER \$1 MILLION FOR STATE LIBRARY FUND

DETROIT, Michigan, August 23, 2002 – Thanks in part to a successful “ticket moratorium” program, Detroit’s 36<sup>th</sup> District Court has generated \$1,068,000 for the State Library Fund, Chief Judge Marilyn E. Atkins reported.

On a monthly basis, the 36<sup>th</sup> District Court sends a check to Wayne County for approximately \$89,000 from fines collected, Judge Atkins said. Wayne County government in turn forwards that money to the State Library Fund on an annual basis. That annual check was sent earlier this month, Atkins stated.

In a letter to Atkins, Michigan Supreme Court Chief Justice Maura D. Corrigan offered congratulations. “Few Michigan citizens, I think, realize the critical role that court collections play in supporting so many state and local services, including public libraries. Your court’s accomplishment truly benefits all the people of Michigan,” Corrigan wrote.

The court collected more than \$3.5 million in its ticket moratorium program, which began May 13 and ended June 28. Under the program, those who owed overdue tickets paid only half the assessed fines. The program covered tickets from 1993 through 2001.

In addition, Atkins said, the program meant that “Thousands of citizens in the state of Michigan can now drive legally, instead of on suspended licenses.

“Our court staff worked very hard to ensure the program’s success,” Atkins added. “Kudos are due to them for all the benefits of this program.”

36<sup>th</sup> District Court has more than 500,000 criminal and vehicle cases annually. More than half are for traffic tickets, Atkins said.

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**“The judicial power of the state is vested exclusively in one court of justice . . .”**

— *Michigan Constitution, Article VI, Section I*